



PUBLIC HEARING & RESOLUTION

Authorizing Filing Grant Application for FTA Section 5310 Funds for ADA Paratransit and Senior Community Vehicles

City Council Meeting
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CURRENT

- Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Section 5310 Program is authorized under Title 49 U.S.C. 5310.
- Funds are to improve mobility for seniors and persons with disabilities.
- Caltrans is recipient of FTA Section 5310 funds, and is responsible for administering 5310 funds.

CURRENT

- 5310 has two project types:
 - Traditional = ADA accessible vehicles, equipment, misc. capital (radios, etc.)
 - Expanded = Expansion of paratransit services (beyond minimum set by ADA, more hours, same-day, escorts, etc.)
- CityBus is applying for Traditional Program.
- Sonoma County Human Services is primarily applying for Expanded Program.

CURRENT

- Traditional Program application process requires public agency to certify there are no other non-profit agencies “readily available” to provide the proposed service.
- Readily available = “Willing, interested and **capable** of providing the proposed service at a comparable cost to the identified clientele in the same service area, with the same hours of frequency, and at the same level of service.”

CURRENT

- Santa Rosa Paratransit (within $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from CityBus routes) and the Oakmont route are provided using City owned vehicles and City contracted operations.
- Other non-profits may competitively apply for funding in Traditional Program, even if not replacing our paratransit service.
- Previous 5310 application in 2017 asked for 5 vehicles, only 4 were awarded.

PROPOSED

- Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) Rule states electrification of paratransit vehicles will be required after 2026.
- Electric vehicles are not part of City 5310 ask as electric charging infrastructure is not in place, making application less competitive.
- If awarded, funds are based on an estimated cost for a gasoline vehicle, anything over estimate is on applicant.

PROPOSED

- Hold a public hearing to meet the federal 5310 requirement to determine if any private non-profit is readily available to provide paratransit services within the City.
- Authorize City Manager or his designee to execute and file a grant application with Caltrans for the FTA Section 5310 Program to purchase six replacement ADA Paratransit vehicles and the Oakmont Senior Community vehicle.

BENEFIT

- Community supported services
- Modernize vehicle fleet providing ADA Paratransit and Oakmont Senior Community service
- 100% grant-funded vehicles (based on an estimated cost)
- Invest and sustain infrastructure and transportation

RECOMMENDATION

- It is recommended by the Transportation and Public Works Department that the Council:
 - 1) hold a public hearing to determine whether any private non-profit is readily available to provide paratransit services in the City; and,
 - 2) by resolution, authorize the City Manager or his designee to execute and file a grant application with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) under Federal Transit Act Section 5310 (FTA C 9070.1G) to purchase six replacement ADA Paratransit vehicles and Oakmont Senior Community vehicle.
- Questions?